

HOUSE RESOLUTION 151

By Marrero

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Kyrstan Overstreet for her successful fight in overcoming great physical disadvantages and for her dedication to helping improve the lives of others with disabilities.

WHEREAS, it is fitting for members of this General Assembly to pause in their deliberations to salute those young citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as emerging community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, overcoming much adversity in her life, Kyrstan Overstreet has grown into an exceptional leader in her academic programs, her family, and her volunteer work. Diagnosed with Type-1 Diabetes in 1984 and suffering from the many complications that arose from this disease, Kyrstan has had to endure many health-related issues, as well as the emotional impact that long-term illness brings; and

WHEREAS, some of the complications she has endured due to Diabetes is the loss of sight in one eye and enduring the trauma and adjustment required of a patient in dire need of a pancreatic transplant; after recovering from these obstacles, Kyrstan accomplished the unfathomable: she graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Memphis with high hopes for her future; and

WHEREAS, because of her own personal dealings with such drastic physical limitations and disadvantages and the tremendous support she received from her family, counselors, and professors, Kyrstan Overstreet feels compelled to give back to others by actively joining the fight; she wants to pursue a career in the medical field to help others overcome medical obstacles and become an important and successful part of society; and

WHEREAS, she currently attends the University of Memphis pursuing a Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling, with future hopes of obtaining a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor

license and a Licensed Professional Counselor license with the goals of one day working for the Veteran's Administration Hospital as a Rehabilitation Counselor; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her academic prowess, Kyrstan has a giving spirit; she volunteers at the local Hospice in Memphis, where she works with terminally ill patients, and she is a passionate advocate for the disability community, helping to shine light on unfortunate misconceptions about the disabled; and

WHEREAS, Kyrstan Overstreet epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, as she takes her rightful place among the many noble citizens who have earned this State its nickname, "The Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Ms. Overstreet, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve their fellow citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Krystan Overstreet on her diligence in overcoming great physical disabilities to pursue excellence, salute her dedication and resolve, and wish her much continued success in her every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.